

1958. VITIS ROMANETI.**Grape.**

From France. Presented by M. Victor Caplat, of Damigny, France, through Mr. W. T. Swingle; received December, 1898.

A Chinese grape having curious red silky hairs ending in a gland scattered all over the canes, petioles, and leaves. The leaves are large and cordate. It is from Shen-si. The fruit is edible.

1959. VITIS.**Grape.**

From France. Presented by M. Victor Caplat, of Damigny, France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898, under the name "*Spinoritis davidi*."

It has spiny branches and heart-shaped leaves. A rapid-growing vine of some value for ornament.

1960. HEDYSARUM CORONARIUM.**Sulla.**

From Italy. Presented by Dammann & Co., San Giovanni a Teduccio, near Naples. (1 package.)

A perennial or biennial legume, native of southern Europe and northern Africa. It is quite extensively cultivated in Algiers, Tunis, Malta, and Sicily. Sulla withstands slight frosts, but dies when the ground is frozen. It resembles alfalfa in requiring well-drained, deep, and fertile soils, but is a slower grower and of shorter duration. Seed should be sown in autumn, at the rate of 15 to 20 pounds per acre. The plants grow 4 to 6 feet high, and are ready to cut for hay when in full bloom. The hay has about the same feeding value as that of beggar weed. Of possible value for forage in Florida and along the Gulf coast. Sulla is an excellent honey plant.

1961. CUCUMIS MELO.**Winter muskmelon.**

From Utah. Seeds of two specimens of the "Eden" variety presented by Mr. John F. Brown, Elgin, Utah. A winter variety. (See No. 2380.)

1962. ORYZA SATIVA.**Rice.**

From Japan. Secured by Prof. S. A. Knapp from the island of Kiushu. Received January, 1899.

In sending this importation Professor Knapp made the following brief report to the Secretary of Agriculture:

"In accordance with your instructions, I went to Japan in September last and commenced at once to investigate the rice product of that country, to secure the best variety for our purpose. After an inspection of the rice fields and methods of cultivation I spent several days at the Imperial College of Agriculture, examining their experiments in varieties and in fertilizing, and also their large collections of varieties from all portions of the Empire. I then consulted with the principal millers and exporters of rice at the treaty ports. By consensus of opinion it was decided to purchase rice in the island of Kiushu, as furnishing the purest in variety and best in quality. In making the selection the following points were observed: (1) Nutritive and milling qualities; (2) uniform size of kernel; (3) strength of straw."

The whole amount (10 tons) has been distributed in the South. Arrangements have been made to secure additional seed for next year, as the experiment seems to warrant a second distribution. (See Bul. 22, Division of Botany.)

1963. CORCHORUS CAPSULARIS.**Jute.**

Imported from Calcutta by Mr. Charles Richards Dodge, as special agent for fiber investigations. (200 packages.)

It is an annual shrub, 8 to 15 feet high, native of India, and largely grown there for the well-known and widely used jute fiber. It requires a rich, well-drained soil, with considerable moisture. Suitable for the rich bottom lands in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The seed should be sown broadcast, in March or April, at the rate of 12 to 15 pounds per acre, and harrowed in. The crop is ready to cut for fiber when the seed pods are formed, usually within about 4 months from the time of seeding. Jute has been successfully grown on rice and cotton lands from North Carolina to Texas. Yields of 11 tons per acre have been obtained, about three times the average yield in India. The imports of jute into the United States in 1898 amounted to over 112,000 tons, valued at \$2,500,000.